

CLAIMS:

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1. Switch for the optical switching of a light path, particularly for switching the entering of light into a fiber-optical light guide, the switch having at least one mirror surface for reflecting the light, for establishing the mirror surface, a support being equipped with a reflective layer, characterized in that the support is a glass body.

2. Switch according to Claim 1, characterized in that the mirror element (7) comprising the at least one mirror surface (7', 7'') and the glass body is cut out of a glass plate provided with at least one reflective layer.

3. Switch according to Claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the glass body or the glass plate is provided on both sides with a reflective layer (7', 7'').

4. Switch according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the glass body or the glass plate has a thickness of approximately 0.02 to 0.7 mm, particularly of approximately 0.1 to 0.5 mm.

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5. Switch according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the reflective layer (7', 7'') is applied to the support by means of a vacuum coating method which is known per se.

6. Switch according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the reflective layer (7', 7'') is constructed as a highly reflective layer, preferably made of Au, Ag or Al.

7. Switch according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the reflective layer (7', 7'') is protected by a protective layer.

8. Switch according to Claim 7, characterized in that the protective layer is essentially formed of SiO_2 , SiO_x , MgF_2 , ThF_4 or similar stable hard dielectric oxides, nitrides or fluorides.

9. Switch according to Claim 7 or 8, characterized in that the protective layer can be produced by a vacuum technique.

10. Switch according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the support having the reflective mirror surface (7', 7'') is arranged on a switch body (8).

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11. Switch according to Claim 10,
characterized in that the switch body (8) has a shaft or a shaft
bore (9) for its swivellability.

12. Switch according to Claim 10 or 11,
characterized in that the switch body (8) is produced from a
material which can be cast or injection molded.

13. Switch according to one of Claims 10 to 12,
characterized in that the support is arranged on the essentially
cuboid-shaped switch body (8) in a surface-flush manner in a
recess (8b).

14. Switch according to one of Claims 10 to 12,
characterized in that the support is inserted at the essentially
cuboid-shaped switch body (8) approximately at the level of
medium deepness, preferably in a form closure.

15. Switch according to one of Claims 10 to 14,
characterized in that the support projects from the switch body
(8) approximately in the manner of a lug.

16. Switch according to one of Claims 10 to 15,
characterized in that the support is glued to the switch body
(8).

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